

Message Text

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17

ACTION SCI-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 EUR-08 EA-06 ISO-00 AID-05 CEQ-01

CIAE-00 COA-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-04 EPA-01 INR-05

IO-04 L-01 NSF-01 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-03 RSC-01 SS-15

SP-02 FEA-01 SAM-01 AGR-05 LAB-01 SIL-01 SAJ-01 PA-01

PRS-01 USIA-06 DRC-01 /091 W
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R 180550Z OCT 74

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2563

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USUN NEW YORK 061

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 1800

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SENV, CH

SUBJECT: PRC ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

REF: HONG KONG 10763

SUMMARY: UN OFFICIAL IS IMPRESSED WITH PRC ENVIRONMENTAL
PROGRAM AND BELIEVES THE CHINESE HAVE MADE A MAJOR COMMITMENT
TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT.

1. CANADIAN EMBASSY PASSED ON TO US GIFT OF SKETCHY COMMENTS
ON CHINESE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFORT MADE BY MAURICE STRONG,
(UN ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM SECRETARIAT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR) DURING
HIS VISIT TO PEKING. ACCORDING TO STRONG, THE CHINESE HAVE MADE
A MAJOR COMMITMENT TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT AND THEY HAVE
DONE CONSIDERABLE GROUND WORK ON THE SUBJECT. IN ADDITION TO
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SETTING UP THE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION UNDER THE STATE

CAPITOL CONSTRUCTION COMMISSION (REFTEL), NEW UNITS HAVE ALSO BEEN SET UP AT ALL GOVERNMENTAL LEVELS TO DEAL WITH ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS.

2. ON THE INTERNATIONAL FRONT, THE CHINESE PROMISED TO CONTRIBUTE BOTH HARD CURRENCY AND YUAN (PRESUMABLY TO PAY CHINESE PERSONNEL) TO THE UN PROGRAM. THEY ALSO ANNOUNCED THEIR INTENTION TO ASSIGN AND ADDITIONAL DIPLOMAT TO THEIR EMBASSY IN NAIROBI TO COORDINATE ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS WITH THE UN SECRETARIAT.

3. COMMENT: CANADIANS CAUTIONED THAT STRONG COULD BE EXPECTED TO PUT MOST OPTIMISTIC INTERPRETATION ON CHINESE EFFORTS. THEY COMMENTED THAT CHINESE PROGRAM AT THIS POINT SOUNDS MORE ORGANIZATIONAL THAN CONCRETE. THERE WAS NO INDICATION FROM STRONG THAT CHINESE ARE ACTUALLY COMMITTING MAJOR FINANCIAL RESOURCES TO IT. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANYTHING USUN OR OTHER ADDRESSEES MIGHT BE ABLE TO LEARN FROM STRONG ON THE CHINESE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFORT.
HOLDRIDGE

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